NUMB. CXXII.

# The SPECTATOR.

*mes jucundus in via pro vehiculo est.* Publ. Syr. Frag.

*Friday, July* 20. 1711.

A Man's first Care should be to avoid the Reproaches of his own Heart; his next, to escape the Censures of the World: If the last interferes with the former, it ought entirely neglected; but otherwise, there can be a greater Satisfaction to an honest Mind, to see those Approbations which it gives itself ded by the Applauses of the Publick: A Man re sure of his Conduct, when the Verdict h he passes upon his own Behaviour is thus anted, and confirmed by the Opinion of all that w him.

y worthy Friend Sir ROGER is one of those is not only at Peace within himself, but be- d and esteemed by all about him. He receives table Tribute for his universal Benevolence to kind, in the Returns of Affection and Good- which are paid him by every one that lives in his Neighbourhood. I lately met with two hree odd Instances of that general Respect h is shewn to the good old Knight. He ld needs carry *Will. Wimble* and my self with to the County-Assizes: As we were upon the d *Will. Wimble* joyned a couple of plain Men rid before us, and conversed with them for Time; during which my Friend Sir ROGER ainted me with their Characters.

he first of them, says he, that has a Spaniel his Side, is a Yeoman of about an hundred ds a Year, an honest Man: He is just within Game-Act, and qualified to kill an Hare or a asant: He knocks down a Dinner with his Gun e or thrice a Week; and by that Means lives h cheaper than those who have not so good an te as himself. He would be a good Neighbour e did not destroy so many Partridges: In short, s a very sensible Man; shoots flying; and has n several Times Foreman of the Petty-Jury.

he other that rides along with him is *Tom* ty, a Fellow famous for *taking the Law* of every y. There is not one in the Town where he s that he has not sued at a Quarter-Sessions. e Rogue had once the Impudence to go to Law h the *Widow*. His Head is full of Costs, Damages, and Ejectments: He plagued a couple of honest Gentlemen so long for a Trespass in breaking one of his Hedges, till he was forced to sell the Ground it enclosed to defray the Charges of the Prosecution: His Father left him fourscore Pounds a Year; but he has cast and been cast so often, that he is not now worth thirty. I suppose he is going upon the old Business of the Willow-Tree.

As Sir ROGER was giving me this Account of *Tom Touchy*, *Will. Wimble* and his two Companions stopped short till we came up to them. After having paid their Respects to Sir ROGER, *Will.* told him that Mr. *Touchy* and he must appeal to him upon a Dispute that arose between them. *Will.* it seems had been giving his Fellow Travellers an Account of his angling one Day in such a Hole; when *Tom Touchy*, instead of hearing out his Story, told him, that Mr. such an One, if he pleased, might *take the Law of him* for fishing in that Part of the River. My Friend Sir ROGER heard them both, upon a round Trot; and after having paused some Time told them, with the Air of a Man who would not give his Judgment rashly, that *much might be said on both Sides.* They were neither of them dissatisfied with the Knight's Determination, because neither of them found himself in the Wrong by it: Upon which we made the best of our Way to the Assizes.

The Court was sat before Sir ROGER came, but notwithstanding all the Justices had taken their Places upon the Bench, they made Room for the old Knight at the Head of them; who for his Reputation in the Country took Occasion to whisper in the Judge's Ear, That *he was glad his Lordship had met with so much good Weather in his Circuit.* I was listening to the Proceedings of the Court with much Attention, and infinitely pleased with that great Appearance and Solemnity which so properly accompanies such a publick Administration of our Laws; when, after about an Hour's Sitting, I observed to my great Surprize, in the Midst of a Trial, that my Friend Sir ROGER was getting up to speak. I was in some Pain for him, till I found he had acquit-

ted

ted himſelf of two or three Sentences, with a Look of much Buſineſs and great Intrepidity.

Upon his firſt Riſing the Court was huſhed, and a general Whiſper ran among the Country-People that Sir ROGER was up. The Speech he made was ſo little to the Purpoſe, that I ſhall not trouble my Readers with an Account of it; and I believe was not ſo much deſigned by the Knight himſelf to inform the Court, as to give him a Figure in my Eye, and keep up his Credit in the Country.

I was highly delighted, when the Court roſe, to ſee the Gentlemen of the Country gathering about my old Friend, and ſtriving who ſhould compliment him moſt; at the ſame Time that the ordinary People gazed upon him at a Diſtance, not a little admiring his Courage, that was not afraid to ſpeak to the Judge.

In our Return home we met with a very odd Accident; which I cannot forbear relating, becauſe it ſhews how deſirous all who know Sir ROGER are of giving him Marks of their Eſteem. When we were arrived upon the Verge of his Eſtate, we ſtopped at a little Inn to reſt our ſelves and our Horſes. The Man of the Houſe had it ſeems been formerly a Servant in the Knight's Family; and to do Honour to his old Maſter, had ſome Time ſince, unknown to Sir ROGER, put him up in a Sign-poſt before his Door; ſo that *the Knight's Head* had hung out upon the Road about a Week before he himſelf knew any thing of the Matter. As ſoon as Sir ROGER was acquainted with it, finding that his Servant's Indiſcretion proceeded wholly from Affection and Good-will, he only told him that he had made him too high a Compliment; and when the Fellow ſeemed to think that could hardly be, added with a more deciſive Look, That it was too great an Honour for any Man under a Duke; but told him at the ſame Time that it might be altered with a very few Touches, and that he himſelf would be at the Charge of it. Accordingly they got a Painter by the Knight's Directions to add a Pair of Whiſkers to the Face, and by a little Aggravation of the Features to change it into the *Saracen's Head*. I ſhould not have known this Story, had not the Innkeeper upon Sir ROGER's alighting told him in my Hearing, That his Honour's Head was brought back laſt Night with the Alterations that he had ordered to be made in it. Upon this my Friend with his uſual Chearfulneſs related the Particulars above-mentioned, and ordered the Head to be brought into the Room. I could not forbear diſcovering greater Expreſſions of Mirth than ordinary upon the Appearance of this monſtrous Face, under which, notwithſtanding it was made to frown and ſtare in a moſt extraordinary Manner, I could ſtill diſcover a diſtant Reſemblance of my old Friend. Sir ROGER, upon ſeeing me laugh, deſired me to tell him truly if I thought it poſſible for People to know him in that Diſguiſe. I at firſt kept my uſual Silence; but upon the Knight's conjuring me to tell him whether it was not ſtill more like himſelf than a *Saracen*, I compoſed my Countenance in the beſt Manner I could, and replied, *That much might be ſaid on both Sides.*

These ſeveral Adventures, with the Knight's behaviour in them, gave me as pleaſant a Day as I met with in any of my Travels.


ADVERTISEMENTS.

By Her Majeſty's Company of Comedians.

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane this preſent Friday, being the 20th of July, will be preſented a Comedy call'd, The Feign'd Innocence, or Sir Martin Mar-all. The part of Sir Martin by Mr. Bullock, Warner by Mr. Powell, and all the other Parts to the beſt Advantage. To which will be added a ſhort Farce of one Act only, call'd the Stage-Coach.

This Paly is ſold by Jacob Tonſon, at Shakeſpear's Head over against Catharine-ſtreet in the Strand.

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